

Fastest Largest Jet



TWA

Leave Tel Aviv 7:40 a.m.
Arr. New York 10:30 p.m.
same day

MONDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 1959

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Jerusalem Mayor Gershon Agron Dead at 65; Funeral Today

West's Big 4 to Meet in Paris Dec. 19 for Pre-Summit Parley

Lying in State at Town Hall

Jerusalem Post Staff
We announce with deep regret the passing away in Jerusalem yesterday morning of Mr. Gershon Agron, Mayor of Jerusalem and the founder of The Jerusalem Post, at the age of 65. Death came peacefully and painlessly at 6:45 a.m. in Hadassah Ziv Hospital after a nine-week illness. The body will lie in state from 8:30 a.m. until noon today in the Town Hall Council Chamber, and the funeral procession will leave the Municipality building at 1 p.m. Interment will take place at Har Hamehulot cemetery.

Prime Minister's and other tributes — Page 3; Biography — Page 4.

12:30 p.m. in front of the Central Post Office on Jaffa Road. Persons arriving in cars will park them along both sides of Jaffa Road from the corner of Rehov Ray Hook to Beit Hagedel Square, facing west.

The funeral procession will proceed on foot to Beit Hagedel Square. Municipal offices will be closed as from 10 a.m. The District Representative has notified all Government offices to lower flags to half mast from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. In Jerusalem today, there will be no cinema matinees.

Long Illness
Mayor Agron was admitted to Hadassah Hospital (Beit Hagedel) on September 3, suffering from liver and bile tract complaints. He was under the care of Professor Moshe Rachmilevitch of the Internal Medicine Department, and later Professor N. Saltz, of the Surgical Department.

On September 22 he was transferred to Hadassah Ziv and underwent an operation. His post-operative condition was favourable, but at the beginning of last week complications set in and on Wednesday he was operated on again. On Friday, he developed pneumonia.

He had up to that date overcome the ailments of pneumonia, hepatitis, and an acute infection of the lungs. Physicians said they were amazed at the courage with which Mr. Agron had met his illness up to his last hours.

Last Hours
He was visited during Saturday evening by Finance Minister Levi Eshkol and carried on a lively conversation with him. He was conscious and lucid until his death at 6:45 a.m. on Sunday.

Mayor Agron remained a newspaperman and editor to the last. He began every day in the hospital by meticulously reading the newspaper clippings on Jerusalem, as well as a more leisurely reading of the main newspapers.

He directed the affairs of the city from his sickbed. He received reports on the city's affairs twice, and sometimes three, daily. His last official actions were to authorize sending a bouquet of flowers to the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra on the occasion of its first concert in Jerusalem and to authorize the posting of placards welcoming President Ben-Zvi back from his trip to Burma — both last Wednesday.

He continually referred to the future of Jerusalem in his conversations with his visitors, always as one visitor said, "from the viewpoint of historical perspective."

From his hospital bed he directed the city's department to "pay all workers before the holidays."

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem mourns the passing of the Mayor of Jerusalem.

GERSHON AGRON
a devoted friend of the University and extends its deepest sympathies to the bereaved family.

The Governing Bodies and the Staffs of The Weizmann Institute of Science mourn in deep sorrow the passing of

Gershon Agron
Member of its Board of Governors



TWO TRIBUTES

By ZALMAN ARANNE

WE are deeply grieved by the death of Gershon Agron, zichro livacha. Jerusalem and Israel have lost a luminous personality. He made his way along life in honesty with himself. This quality is most often acquired through spiritual suffering. Yet there are rare persons in whom honesty with themselves is part of their nature. Such a man was Gershon Agron. Thus he reached the shores of Eretz Yisrael with the Jewish Legion. He evolved into an editor, impelled by a clear conscience. Thus he was steered into the hand who as editor of the English daily, fought in the front ranks of the Yishuv against the British. Thus during a heavy shelling of a street in Jerusalem, he demonstrated his heroic courage by standing in the front ranks of the Yishuv against the British. Thus he lived with all his soul the life of Jerusalem and the Jewish Legion. Thus he fought with death until his last breath.

There has gone from us a man whose life strengthened our faith in man.

By DOV JOSEPH

I FIRST met Gershon 41 years ago when, in British uniform, he came to Montreal to help us recruit volunteers for the Jewish Legion. Together we served in that Force in Palestine. His handsome appearance, his pleasant smile and his friendliness soon won my heart, as it did the many hundreds of friends he made on his way through life. Gershon loved human beings, was tolerant of their failings and was rewarded by the warmth of friendship from all with whom he came in contact. He was essentially a Jew of the generation preceding his own, attracted to Jewish lore and steeped in deep love for his People. He was a devoted disciple of Chaim Weizmann and Shmarya Levin and enjoyed the friendship and trust of all the Zionist leadership. His whole life was dedicated to the cause of Jewish national regeneration. To serve his People was a labour of love which filled all the waking moments of his day and was the stuff of which his dreams were made.

Gershon's life was one of

THE ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH
Joins the family, the city, and the nation in mourning the untimely departure of

GERSHON AGRON
a member of its Advisory Council

The Israel Labour Party (Mapai) mourns the untimely passing of one of Jerusalem's greatest sons, a noble man of manifold achievement.

GERSHON AGRON
Mayor and re-builder of Jerusalem.

MERKAZ MAPAI

First Election Results 4 Hours After Polls Close

By MARK SEGAL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The first official election results, most probably from the Kinneret region — will be known by the Central Elections Committee at about 4 a.m. on Wednesday, four hours after the polls close. The Committee does not consider as finally authoritative the Kol Yisrael broadcast results, which start at least two hours before. This was learned by The Jerusalem Post on Sunday night from the Committee Secretary, Mr. Y. Shiloah.

"If we can work without interruption, our staff will have the absolutely final national results ready within three to four days after voting ends," he declared. In sealed envelopes in police custody, when final results were available only five to six days later.

The election machine is now in full swing. Some 80 per cent of the "confidential" material such as polling station tabulation lists and voters' registers had been delivered by 10 o'clock on Sunday night to the chairman or deputy chairman of the 2,500 polling stations. This top secret material had been kept in sealed envelopes in police custody until then. The remainder will be delivered by this evening. The Committee printed 30m. voting slips, expenditures for the five months of its activities had come to IL11m. Mr. Shiloah said.

Mr. Shiloah, who has been Secretary of all four Knesset Election Committees, declared that this time the machinery ran more smoothly than ever before because of careful planning. The Committee had a full-time staff of 40 paid officials at headquarters in Beit Hagedel here, and 150 in the 34 regions in addition to 12,000 volunteers. "Every one has been working very hard," he and his colleagues have been at it for 19 hours a day for the past few weeks," he observed.

PORATH RETAINS CHESS CROWN

By A. SHARAF
Jerusalem Post Chess Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel Champion Yosef Porath retained his title in the dramatic final round of the 15-round Israeli National Chess Championship by winning his adjourned game against Guttli. His main rival for the title, Aharon (Erno) Goren, was defeated by a 1-2 score.

Porath, who holds the rank of International Master, is an accountant by profession, and lives in Ramot Hashavim.

Lone Survivor Found Amid 26 Plane Victims
WAYNESBORO, Virginia (Reuter). — Rescue workers on Sunday reached the wreckage of a crashed Dakota airliner, missing for 36 hours with 26 people aboard, and found one man alive — still strapped to his seat.

The man, 35-year-old businessman Phil Bradley, was the sole survivor of the 26 passengers and three crew members of the Piedmont Airlines plane which crashed on a wooded slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He had been unable to get out of his seat.

The aircraft was on a 60-minute flight from Washington to Charlottesville, Virginia.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

An overall Egyptian-Sudanese Nile waters and trade agreement is expected to be signed on Tuesday, Abdel Nasser at Khartoum, E.A.R. Minister of Economy, said in Cairo last night.

Shah Begins State Visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Reuter). — The Shah of Persia is due to arrive in Amman on Monday morning (today) for a four-day state visit. The occasion will be marked by the signing of a cultural agreement and the raising of Jordanian and Persian diplomatic missions to the status of embassies.

ASWAN CEREMONY PUT OFF UNTIL JANUARY

CAIRO (Reuter). — Abdul Nasser will lay the foundation stone of the new Aswan High Dam at a ceremony to be held in the first week of January, the Cairo newspaper "Al-Ahram" said on Sunday. King Mohammed VI of Morocco will be guest of honor.

Nehru: We Shall Repel Any Chinese Invasion

NEW DELHI (Reuter). — The Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, said on Sunday that China's armed attacks on India's borders were a challenge to the nation and our borders with all the strength at our command.

Speaking at a public meeting here, he said: "If China is big, India is also big. We will meet this challenge with strength and firmness."

Also on Sunday, General K.M. Cariappa, former Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, called for the immediate deployment of troops against the Chinese on India's northern border.

"There is no time to waste," he said in an interview with the Press Trust of India. "If immediate steps were not taken to dislodge the Chinese, it certainly will be a disaster for our country."

The time has come to act. Chinese troops on our soil must be removed. The General added: "If we are driven by China to go to war, let's go to it with 400 million of our people solidly behind our Government."

Congolese Leader Held After 70 Die in Rioting

STANLEYVILLE, Belgian Congo (Reuter). — Security police here on Sunday arrested Patrice Lumumba, leader of the Congolese National Movement, after a search which sparked off two days of rioting, reported to have resulted in over 70 dead and 200 injured.

The liner was damaged in a collision here last Thursday night with the 8,277-ton freighter, American Press. On Saturday night, 148 of her passengers sailed for the Mediterranean on board the 29,191-ton Italian liner Cristoforo Colombo.

The transfer of the ammunition, which consisted of 30 and 50 calibre bullets, was assigned to the Israel Ministry of Defence, which was ordered by the Coast Guard.

A Coast Guard spokesman said in reply to questions that passenger vessels were permitted, under certain strict regulations, to carry small arms ammunition of less than .75 calibre.

Among the passengers transferred to the Cristoforo Colombo from the Israel were a family of six on their way to Jerusalem. Mr. Dagher, 32, his wife and four young children were on the Israel when the collision occurred. Mr. Dagher, a self-employed lawyer from Oregon, said: "We were in a cabin with two portables. I saw the boat coming and I couldn't believe my eyes. I knew it would hit us, but fortunately we were in a cabin suitably high."

"I walked towards the door — the crash came. The boat shook but it didn't throw any of us to the floor. I got down on my knees and prayed."

They were arrested last June near the Syrian-Lebanese border. After hearing the defence case, the Court decided to adjourn until November 16. At the Court's first hearing, the prosecutor demanded the death penalty for the defendants.

\$300,000 UN Grant For Israel Weather Institute

UNITED NATIONS (Reuter). — Israel is to receive a grant of \$314,500 to help establish a central meteorological institute, under allocations recommended here on Sunday under the U.N. Special Fund, established last year to help under-developed countries.

It was also recommended that the U.A.R. receive a grant of \$472,400 towards a survey of the groundwater resources of the Jenieh (Syrian Region).

He-called for the distribution of oil profits between Arab states and oil companies on an equitable basis.

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The ceremony has apparently been postponed, as it was originally scheduled to take place in December this year.

To Decide Date for E-W Talks

President Eisenhower, Premier Harold Macmillan, and Chancellor Konrad Adenauer will meet President Charles de Gaulle in Paris on December 19 to co-ordinate the Western position for an East-West summit meeting, it was announced simultaneously in the four capitals on Sunday night.

The Western summit meeting, expected to last three or four days, is being held at the invitation of General de Gaulle and is expected to decide the date for and subjects to be discussed at the broader East-West parley.

Observers in Bonn saw the choice of December 19, the date suggested by France, as confirmation that the French point of view on the timing of the sequence of summit meetings was prevailing so far.

Washington officials said the main purpose of the December meeting would be to compose the differences on the date and agenda for an East-West summit, between the U.S. and Britain on the one hand, and France and West Germany on the other.

Time-table plans for the East-West meeting are complicated by the fact that no one outside Paris and Moscow yet knows when Mr. Nikita Khrushchev will visit Paris for private talks with General de Gaulle. The French President may also want to visit Washington before agreeing to a date for a summit conference.

To Urge Paris, Bonn
Diplomatic observers in Washington expected President Eisenhower would join Mr. Macmillan in urging the French and West German leaders to agree to an East-West summit meeting as soon as possible. Mr. Khrushchev said in Moscow on Saturday that he, too, wanted an early summit meeting.

But, while Britain wants a February or March meeting, usually well-informed sources in Paris predicted that General de Gaulle, making his first appearance at a major international conference, would press for an April or May meeting.

Mr. James Hagerty, the White House Press Secretary, told reporters in Washington yesterday that no tentative date had yet been fixed for the East-West meeting.

On the subject of the agenda for the East-West meeting, Paris observers expect General de Gaulle to press for the widest possible range of subjects, including Berlin, nuclear weapons, and disarmament.

It was also announced in the Western capitals on Sunday that the NATO Ministerial Council would meet in Paris on December 15, 16 and 17, as originally scheduled.

President's Condolences To King of Laos

Jerusalem Post Reporter
President Ben-Zvi has sent a message of condolence to the King of Laos, the former Crown Prince Savang Vangthana, on the death last Friday of his father, King Sisavang Vong.

Foreign Minister Golda Meir sent a similar message to the Laotian Foreign Minister, after he had officially informed the Israel Government of the death of the King.

To the Agron Family

We share your grief at the passing of your dear

GERSHON AGRON

THE STAFF MAROM COMPANY

HADASSAH, THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, THE HADASSAH COUNCIL IN ISRAEL and THE HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION deeply mourn the untimely death of

GERSHON AGRON

Mayor of Jerusalem and faithful friend of Hadassah. We share in the deep grief of our dear colleague Ethel Agron and the bereaved family.

GERSHON AGRON

GERSHON AGRON

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GERSHON AGRON

The Weather

FORECAST: Fair. Temperatures above normal. Dry. Windy in hill regions. High pressure extends over East Mediterranean causing fair weather and temperatures above normal in our region.

	A	B	C	D
Tuesdays	24	25	26	27
Wednesdays	25	26	27	28
Thursdays	26	27	28	29
Fridays	27	28	29	30
Saturdays	28	29	30	31
Sundays	29	30	31	1

(A) Humidity at 8 p.m. (B) Minimum temp. (C) Maximum temp. (D) Maximum temp. expected today.

ARRIVALS

Dr. J.A. Timmermans, Foreign Manager of the Netherlands Lloyd Insurance Company, to the U.S.A. (by El Al).

Mr. Yitzhak Vardi, Director of the Israel Bond Campaign in America, for consultations. Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Jackson, of Washington, D.C., to participate in the U.S.A. Study Mission.

DEPARTURES

Mr. Yehoshua Sahar, Ambassador to Austria, to Vienna, after a brief home leave and consultations with the Foreign Ministry (by El Al).

Mr. Shlomo Ben-Yisrael, of the Jewish Daily Forward, an American Yiddish daily newspaper, after a visit (by El Al).

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Jackson, of Washington, D.C., after a three-week visit (by El Al).

WARM WEATHER AGAIN TODAY

Temperatures will continue above normal today with a slight rise predicted for most parts of Israel. It will be dry inland and in the hill regions. The fair weather and above-normal temperatures were attributed by the weatherman last night to a ridge of high pressure extending over the East Mediterranean.

Rahovot School Named 'Weizmann'

REHOVOT. — A State primary school was yesterday officially named in memory of the first President of the State, the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann.

The school in the western quarter of this city serves 800 pupils.

Among those present at the ceremony attended by 1,500 guests were Mrs. Weizmann, the late President's sister, Dr. Masha Weizmann, the Rehovot Mayor, Mr. Y. Katz, the President of the Weizmann Institute, Mr. Abba Eban, and the Chairman of the Executive Council of the Weizmann Institute, Mr. Meyer W. Weisgal.

ONLY ONE

slip must be placed in THE BALLOT ENVELOPE for Knesset and Municipal Elections

PINHAS ROSEN

38 Rehovot Jabotinsky, Rehovot.

DEAR CITIZEN, Tomorrow you will be called upon to help determine the character of the Knesset and of the Government for the next four years.

I hope that your vote will not be a chance one, but the result of deep and searching thought. Therefore, I take the liberty of addressing to you these few sentences about the Progressive Party, its achievements and its plans for the future.

Now, as in the past, the Progressive Party wishes to see in Israel a liberal-democratic State, as exemplified by the free nations of the West, which will honour human rights and strive for a State based on a broad coexistence of private, State and public enterprise.

We may take credit for the abolition of the trend schools and their replacement by State Schools; for cessation of work distribution by an inter-political party institution; for the differential wage system graded according to the worker's ability, skill and knowledge; and for the beginning of liberalization of our economy.

Our State, which is obliged to mould the exiles into one people does not need, in the coming years, a one-party Government such as Mapai wishes, but rather a coalition regime which will increase the nation's unity and encourage fruitful cooperation among the various sectors.

Our support of the next Government will depend on the introduction of National Health Insurance; basic income tax reform, to ease the tax burden weighing down the masses; to do away with party monopoly of governmental machinery which now demoralizes the public.

We hope that you will give our efforts your support. This time, we do not merely wish to be content with your sympathy for our party and its aims: we request your Vote for our list.

Respectfully,

Yitzhak Vardi

Haifa Elections Board Primed For National, Local Polls

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Knesset and Municipal Elections Committees in the Haifa District wound up their preparations yesterday. The ballot boxes and cases of slips of paper with the party symbols have been prepared for each of the 272 District stations, 178 of which are in Haifa proper. The boxes and slips will be handed over to the chairman of each station today.

The lists of voters and the opaque envelopes to be used at the stations are in sealed cases that will be deposited at each station tomorrow morning.

At midnight, the fleet of 40 vans at the committee's disposal will be augmented by 50 taxis to take the ballot boxes to the District Election Commission.

A total of 122,329 persons are eligible to vote in the municipal elections. This is an increase of about 10 per cent over 1955, when only 111,455 were eligible. The number of stations has increased from 128 to 178 with fewer voters at each station.

Some 700 sailors who will be at sea on Election Day will be unable to vote. The union's plea for voting facilities on vessels was rejected. Two passenger ships, the Enotria and Marmara, are due on Tuesday morning with some Israelis among their passengers.

Chilean Businessmen To Invest \$1.5m. Here

POST Economic Reporter

A group of Chilean businessmen have undertaken to invest \$1.5m. in a brake lining enterprise and another \$500,000 in a local mortgage bank.

The group, headed by Mr. Jose Klein of Santiago, is taking up a large interest in the Brake and Band Company in the Trans-Yarkon Industrial Zone, north of Tel Aviv. The owner, Mr. Hugo Schwartz, also serves as Attaché at the Chilean Legation.

Mr. Klein, and another member of the group, Mr. Emanuel Litvak, were contacted last summer by the Minister of Commerce during his tour of South America. The businessmen came to Israel a few weeks ago at the invitation of the Prime Minister and returned home last week.

The \$500,000 is being invested in a new mortgage bank in partnership with the Israel Discount Bank.

A NETWORK of internal roads and a new school-building were inaugurated in the Giv'at Usishkin quarter of Nahariya on Sunday.

Mr. Menahem Begin, Herut leader, would up his election campaign with a tour of Tel Aviv quarters on Sunday, speaking before a gathering of some 25,000 persons. Led by a motorcycle escort, Mr. Begin made brief speeches in several places.

Bar Yehuda Appeals For Full Vote

The Minister of Interior, Mr. Bar Yehuda, on Sunday broadcast a statement over the Kol Yisrael using all the 121,000 eligible voters to go to the polls on Tuesday and cast their ballots in the elections to the Fourth Knesset and to the Local Authorities.

Mr. Bar Yehuda especially directed his call to the 100,000 new citizens, both immigrants and young voters, who had reached 18 years of age since the last elections and who are voting for the first time.

He attached special importance to the participation of every eligible voter in the elections, in consideration of the fact that Israel was still a nation surrounded by mortal enemies, and was mainly preoccupied with the absorption of new immigrants and the development of its human and material resources.

Vocational Training For All Army Veterans: Meir

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Foreign Minister, Mr. Golda Meir, on Sunday said that in the next four years everyone leaving the Army will have the chance of getting vocational training. This is the best way to integrate new immigrants, she told 1,000 persons in the Shapira Quarter.

Mapai did not make promises it could not carry out, but it does promise you that given power, we will liquidate the ma'abarot and do all we can to wipe out slums," Mrs. Meir said. At the same time, Israel had to prepare to receive large waves of immigration.

Mrs. Meir impressed on her audience that it was Israel's first duty to be strong. "For only when the Arabs are convinced that we are strong, will they make peace," she emphasized.

B-G, Begin Speak In Tel Aviv Area

PETAH TIKVA. — A crowd of some 10,000 heard Prime Minister Ben-Gurion speak at a Mapai election rally here on Sunday night. Ben-Gurion later spoke before some 3,000 persons at a rally in Tel Aviv's Biltmore Quarter.

Mr. Ben-Gurion reiterated his plea for district elections in order to make for a stable government and a responsible opposition.

Herut Breaks Up Dayan Meeting

TEL AVIV. — A Mapai rally in the Keren Mattemaim Quarter here at which Abuf Moshe Dayan spoke was broken up on Sunday by Herut demonstrators shouting "Begin to Power."

Abuf Dayan told the organized hecklers that he "thanked them for giving the public such an instructive example of what life under Begin would be like." He was prevented from uttering more than a few sentences and was whisked away from the platform by police who were standing by.

New Lights For La Guardia St.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The latest design in sturdy vapour resistant lights now line the "airborne approach" to Tel Aviv from Lydda Airport, along 1,500 metres of Tel Aviv's La Guardia Street. The 32 surgically curved lamps were lit by Mayor Haim Levanon on Sunday evening as his last public function before the elections. Mr. Levanon took a final election-sweep at Haifa and Jerusalem, saying that he would not be elected.

Following Tel Aviv's example in providing modern lighting for their approaches," he said he hoped they would continue to follow in Tel Aviv's footsteps.

Bus Driver Beats Up Passenger

TEL AVIV. — An Egged driver attacked a passenger, tried to lock him in the bus, called him a thief and snatched his bag because he owed him 60 pruta in fare.

This came out in the court of the driver, Ya'acov Barak, of Herzliya, who was on Sunday found guilty in the Magistrate's Court of having caused a disturbance in a public place. Sentence will be handed down on Thursday.

The same charge was levelled by the police against the passenger, Mr. Avraham Ben-Zakan, but the court cleared him completely.

It emerged during the trial that on the night of March 5, Mr. Ben-Zakan boarded the bus near Ramat Hadar and asked for a ticket to Ramat Hasharon. He paid 140 pruta. Instead of getting off at the centre of Ramat Hasharon he went one stop further. When he stepped down, the driver followed him and asked him to return to the bus because he owed fare money. Mr. Ben-Zakan refused that he should have paid 175 pruta for his trip and said he was willing to pay the 60 pruta difference.

Agron Brought Capital to Life

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Mayor Gershon Agron was elected head of the city Council in September, 1955.

The previous administration, headed by Mayor Y. Klatz, had been dissolved in April of the same year, and a special Commission, headed by Mr. S. B. Yeshaya, was appointed to run the city until a new mayor was elected.

His first coalition was based on a partnership with the orthodox parties, but this fell in August, 1956, when these parties refused to approve the issue of a building licence for the School of Archaeology headed by Professor Nelson Glueck, leader of the Reform Movement in the U.S.

He then formed a coalition with the Progressives, Dr. V. Jacoby, becoming or vice-Mayor together with Mr. Mordecai Ish-Shalom, of Mapai, and Mr. Rahamim Kallantir, who had defected from the Mizrahi.

Turning Point

The year 1955 was a turning point in the city's history. The capital, hitherto by lack of work opportunities, was dwindling in population, with several thousand persons "emigrating" to the coastal plain. Long queues formed at the Labour Exchange, and the Municipality itself, unable to force payment of rates, was threatened by a series of strikes.

Mayor Agron embarked on a vigorous programme of pumping new life into the city. In this he was supported by the residents, and not only was emigration from the city halted, but hundreds of immigrants, mostly from the East, were brought to Jerusalem and successfully settled. The city grew in population from an estimated 135,000 in 1955 to 160,000 today.

Jerusalem today faces a severe shortage of skilled workers. An estimated 300 families were living in condemned houses in 1955; the city, together with the Ministry of Labour, set in motion plans to build 300 low-cost flats for these families. The programme has almost been finished.

Water Problem

The problem of water was disastrous in 1955 with every drop bringing a breakdown in the water supply system. A new reservoir was built and eliminated the problem of shortages.

Other major projects were: building a new entrance to the city; widening Mamilla Road and constructing Gan Atzmaut, and 39 other playgrounds or parks; adding 63 kilometres of roads and 25 kilometres of sidewalks; adding 2,000 street lights; and building and equipping 200 classrooms for elementary school children.

In 1956 he attended a conference of Mayors of capital cities held in Tokyo.

In July, 1956, he went to Europe where he tried to interest foreign investors in Jerusalem. At the same time he attended a conference of the Executive of the International Union of Local Authorities at Kronberg, Germany. Mr. Agron was one of 14 members of the Executive.

Mayor Agron made the Municipality a local point of interest for all visitors to Jerusalem, receiving a constant stream of foreign distinguished guests from all walks of life.

He once said, "If one stays in Jerusalem long enough, the whole world will come by."

During his tenure in office, the capital became recognized as a centre of international conventions and conferences.

BOAC Resumes Lydda Flights

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — British Overseas Airways will consider operating night flights on the Lydda-London route if the demand warrants it, Mr. M. Chesney, BOAC Press Officer, said here on Sunday.

BOAC gave a reception at the Gat Rimon Hotel to mark the resumption of its flights to Lydda. The airline's Britannia turbo-prop aircraft. The twice-weekly flights will continue on to Tehran. BOAC said suspension of service to Israel because of a shortage of aircraft. Mr. Chesney said.

He noted that the resumption of flights to Lydda had no far not around Arab action. The company was at present negotiating resuming flights to Cairo, he said. It flies through other Arab countries.

B-G: A Grievous Loss for Israel

The grief and shock at the passing of Mayor Gershon Agron was expressed to the family, the Municipal Council and the staff of The Jerusalem Post in scores of telegrams, messages and personal calls.

Prime Minister Ben-Gurion sent the following letter of condolence to Mrs. Agron:

"Like the entire population of the capital, I have heard with a profound sense of grief and shock of the untimely death of the Mayor of Jerusalem, a volunteer from the United States to the first Jewish Legion in our generation, one of the most talented and upright journalists we have had during the last few decades, one of the Fathers of our Capital City, who was a credit to Jerusalem during years ago that my husband filled the honourable position to which he was called by the citizens of the Capital; my friend and colleague, Gershon Agron, a man of integrity and nobility of soul, beloved of the Jew-men and a lover of the Jewish people and all humanity."

"This is a grievous loss for the Jewish public life, for the State of Israel, for the Capital of our country, for the Jewish people, for the Jewish movement, and for the Israel Labour Party."

I cannot find words to console you.

Dr. Giora Josephthal, Secretary-General of Mapai, called the following message to Mrs. Agron:

"We are all shocked at the loss of our beloved Gershon, a lovable personality and a warm friend, who by his fruitful labours enhanced our cause. The loss is great for many hopes were dependent upon him. Your sorrow and that of your children is felt deeply by the entire movement."

Dr. Shimon Yisraelman, Herut M.K., in a message to the Agron family and The Jerusalem Post, expressed his condolences at the loss of "a man of the pen and of action, a noble spirit and a true gentleness in the inter-party relations of our political jungle."

The Progressive Party sent a letter of condolence to Mrs. Agron which read in part: "We much appreciated Agron's loyalty and concern for the problems of the Jewish people. His efforts to establish a Hebrew newspaper in Jerusalem."

The outgoing chairman of the Journalists Association, Mr. Dan Flies, opened the session, meeting in Tel Aviv, said:

"He devoted his life to the service of the people. His uncompromising probity sometimes led him to tell unpalatable truths."

Mr. I. Flatau, of "Haaretz," who presided at the session, said:

"Agron had two loves: Jerusalem and journalism. That was why he refused to transfer The Palestine Post to Tel Aviv."

A cable was sent to Dr. Miriam Freund, National President of Hadassah, New York, by Mrs. Miriam Freund, Dr. I.E. Seiden, and Dr. K.J. Mann.

We mourn with you the death of the Mayor of Jerusalem, a band of our Ethel Agron and life-long friend of Hadassah."

Few leaders in Israel realized as he did the importance and the problem involved in the permanent tie between the State of Israel and the Jewish people all over the world. His untimely death is a great blow to Zionism, to Jerusalem, and to the State.

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Levi Eshkol, in a message to the Jerusalem Municipality, said:

Gershon Agron was a man of fine spirit, of Jewish and world culture. He dedicated himself entirely to the resurgence of the nation. For many years he devoted his ability and talents to found and maintain in Jerusalem an important and honoured daily newspaper on which he served as a faithful and lucid interpreter between us and the outside world."

He envisioned Jerusalem's development as a regal and splendid city, and wished to devote his life to see this vision realized. This wish was his last testament to his friends. In its fulfillment may his family, friends and citizens of Jerusalem be comforted.

The Minister of Interior, Mr. I. Bar Yehuda, in a message to the Municipality, said:

"Mayor Agron's death was a heavy loss for Jerusalem and all the local authorities in Israel. As editor of The Jerusalem Post he merged the job of reporter and influencing a foreign and hostile administration and the English-speaking world with a proud Zionist Jewish bearing."

Chief Rabbi Nissim:

In a condolence message to the Agron family, the Chief Rabbi said that Gershon Agron's death was a serious loss to the city which he led and which he served with all his strength."

Mayor Abba Khouchy of Haifa, said:

"The death of Gershon Agron is a great loss not only to Jerusalem and to its Municipality. We have all lost an important figure who faithfully served the entire nation."

In his important work as founder and editor of The Palestine Post under the Mandate and as editor of The Jerusalem Post in the State of Israel, he succeeded in making of his paper an effective voice in bringing the message of Zionism and of Israel to friend and foe, both far and near."

In our joint work in the Executive of the Local Authorities Union we all learned

Russia Steps Up Anti-Semitism; Says Times

NEW YORK (INA). — "The New York Times" reported yesterday that various items in Soviet provincial newspapers together with accounts by travellers recently in the Soviet Union indicate that there has been a sharp increase in Soviet attacks on Judaism and religious Jews.

Anti-Semitic violence is also reported to have increased. The "Times" said the most striking example of anti-Jewish material in the press was contained in the September 27 issue of "Dnestrovskaya Pravda," published in Tiraspol, Moldavia. Three articles occupying more than a page were devoted to attacks on Jews and Judaism. The major article, presented over the names of three Jews who declared they had renounced Judaism, called it a fraud, and accused various religious Jews of that city of being thieves. An unsigned article in the same issue said American synagogues served "ruling circles of the U.S." and called Judaism the "enemy of revolution and socialism."

The third article said a woman identified as Shendel Islov Breilman tried to bribe a school official to enroll her daughter in a teachers' institution. The article also published a cartoon showing Jews allegedly practising deception by the use of an alms box.

But the newspaper also referred to Premier Khrushchev's mention of the role of Jews in Soviet rocket successes and also to many outstanding Jews in the world.

Material attacking Jews as thieves and picturing them engaged in illegal activities appeared in the Ukrainian-language "Kivskaya Pravda" of July 29 and the Smolensk newspaper "Rabochi Put" of September 13.

Synagogues have recently been reported to have been closed in Tiraspol, Uzhgorod, Chelyabinsk, Rovno, Drogozychn, Brest, Karaganda, Tashkent and Smarandak.

The "Times" said that in Konotop, in the Ukraine, the authorities banned prayers on Rosh Hashana, but relented to permit prayers on the first day. Persons who assembled to worship on the second day were dispersed by the police. In Kiev, all prayer groups in private homes were reported to have been ordered to dissolve, leaving only one small synagogue in Kiev, which has 200,000 Jews.

In Kharkov, where there has been no synagogue for several years, all private prayer groups were dispersed several months ago. On the eve of the New Year, the authorities are reported to have confiscated eight Torah scrolls in apartments where prayer groups had met.

The "Times" said it is reported that windows in the Great Synagogue in Moscow were broken on the eve of Rosh Hashana and again several days later. In Timrasovsk, hoodlums are said to have broken into an apartment used for prayers and beaten worshippers. The windows in dozens of apartments occupied by Jews in the Moscow suburb of Peshkovo were broken recently. The "Times" said it is reported that in the suburb of Marina Roscha, stones were thrown into the synagogues during last week's celebration of Simhat Torah.

The Soviet postal authorities have returned to Israel 185 parcels containing the "three species" from Israel for their Succot celebrations.

It is understood that several similar parcels sent to private addresses were delivered. The "three species" are the etrog, lulav and myrtle. The fourth plant in this traditional grouping, the willow, was not sent because it withers quickly.

This is the first time that the Jewish communities in the Soviet Union were not allowed to get "three species" from Israel for their Succot celebrations.

The Russian custom authorities marked them as "forbidden for import." The Israel Chief Rabbi sent the parcels last month to Jewish communities in the Soviet Union for use in the traditional Succot prayers.

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra mourns the untimely death of

Gershon Agron

MAYOR OF JERUSALEM

His friend and supporter over many years, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

TO THE JERUSALEM MUNICIPALITY AND THE BEHEAVED FAMILY

Our sympathy on the death of

GERSHON AGRON

MAPAI

Neger District

The State of Israel Bond Organization mourns the untimely passing of

GERSHON AGRON

Mayor of Jerusalem

and extends sincere condolences to the nation, the capital city and the family.

Dr. JOSEPH J. SCHWARTZ Vice-President

We deeply mourn the untimely death of Jerusalem's devoted and distinguished Mayor

GERSHON AGRON

MALDAN Association of Real Estate Brokers in Israel.

The workers of Jerusalem

deeply mourn the passing of the Mayor of Israel's capital, our friend and comrade

Gershon Agron

The Jerusalem Labour Council

The City of Haifa

mourns,

together with its sister city,

Jerusalem, the capital, the passing of

GERSHON AGRON

Abba Khouchy Mayor

and express their condolences to the bereaved family.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

Founded in 1928, the Jerusalem Post is the only English newspaper published daily in Jerusalem. It is published by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Registered at the G.P.O. (Copyright of all material, reserved; reproduction permitted by arrangement.)

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P.O. Box 100, Tel. 428 (4 lines)

Monday, November 2, 1959
1 Shekels, 1000, 1000, 1000

GERSHON Agron was a just — and, therefore, a rare — man in his generation. As editor of this newspaper for a period of 23 years, he achieved outstanding success, although he was certainly no careerist journalist and at all times had the courage to say precisely what he thought, whether it threatened British administration or to a complaining Israel public.

In 1953, turning to active politics, he was able as Mayor of Jerusalem to realize a lifelong dream in the development of this city whose very stones he cherished. A man who detested bickering, he often enough appeared like a second Daniel in the lion's den of coalition party hatreds and intrigues.

His was a remarkably integrated personality. As a Talmudic student still wearing the traditional *peyot*, he became a Zionist through love of Zion untainted by any trace of shame for the ghetto past. Because he was profoundly happy to be a Jew, he was all his life free of sectarian bitterness in his dealings with fellow-Jews and was welcomed with open arms as a friend by non-Jews. The United States, where he spent his adolescence, left its impress upon him; he had the American easy companionship; but his humanism was specifically Jewish — and its fulfillment was for him possible only in Zion.

He belonged to the Weizmann school of thought, and when he created *The Jerusalem Post* it served as a vehicle for the concept of loyal Anglo-Jewish cooperation. He deplored the shortcomings of the British Mandatory authorities, but without hating the British. Day in, day out, for seven long years from 1932 to 1939, the Jewish cause was eloquently expounded to the English in their own language — without spite or rancour, and in terms they could accept if they were open-minded. Then, with the same unflinching courage with which he pursued his course of moderation, he went over to the attack when the fatal White Paper was issued in 1939. In a memorable leading article which he wrote at the time, entitled "The Parting of the Ways," he announced the new role of this paper as the spokesman of organized Jewish opposition to misrule from London.

Gershon Agron was not anxious to be a fighter; he was too kindly, too conscious of his humanity to wish to hurt anyone. Yet his sense of right impelled him to join the Jewish Legion in World War I, and thirty years later, to play a leading role in the Zionist resistance. Even so, his home remained open to his friend and foe alike, and his Friday evening at home remained the only social occasions in the land when Jews and Britishers could meet to talk freely.

Gershon Agron's physical intrepidity was as complete as his moral integrity. During the 1939 riots, he never even occurred to him to give up his house situated in a narrow dark lane where his neighbours were Arabs and where he was utterly at the mercy of terrorists as four times a day and more he walked back and forth from this office. In the same way, he strode the streets easily as shells burst upon his beloved Jerusalem during the 1948 siege. In danger he was unfaltering, unfearfully cheerful, rallying his colleagues by his mere presence, and when bereavement befell he stifled his own and others' tears with a grim summons to get back to work.

Gershon Agron is no longer with us. His passing is a bitter loss for the citizens of his beloved Jerusalem and for the Israel he loved. He still had an infinitely precious contribution to make to the building of national unity in the Jewish State, which demands the love of every aspect of Jewish life that he personified. Had he lived, he should, in a second term as Mayor, have pressed on with the work begun, but still unfinished.

We, who had the privilege to learn from him, and loved and respected him, are stricken with grief at his untimely passing. We could not build a better memorial to a great Jewish humanist than to keep this paper faithful to his principles.

The Flowering Vision

By Abba Eban

President, The Weizmann Institute of Science

THE day on which the Weizmann Institute was formally established marked a point of intersection between two decades. From the outbreak of the World War to November, 1948, the seed had been deeply planted. To establish centres of learning in the shadow of recent war was a part of the Weizmann tradition — a tradition compounded more of faith than of defiance. So had it been in Jerusalem in 1918 and so was it now. The decade beginning in November 1948 was to reveal the flower born of the early seed — if not in its full growth, at least in its general colour and harmony.

We now see the flower. The custodians of Weizmann's heritage look on it with pride. The research departments of the Institute organize an assault on nature's secrets across a very broad field. The scientific mind at work here in Rehovot has been well portended in the terms with which Weizmann himself was once described by Israel Sieff — "restless, proving, attempting, experimenting — ever pushing forward." The special electricity of Israel's air is formed chiefly by the constant sense of birth, incipience, transformation, growth. In this respect the Weizmann Institute is among the most Israeli of all Israeli things. It is a compact expression of what Israel means and promises to be.

WHAT is it then that the Weizmann Institute gives to Israel? Its most important gift is its mere existence. There is much talk in these days of the duty of scientists to society. The main duty of a scientist to society is to be a scientist. By his very existence the scientist works gives his nation an atmosphere of intellectual discipline, truth and spiritual integrity. A national society which contains such men, however few, is different in its essential nature from a national society in which such men do not live and work. This fact is not influenced at all by the circumstance that the actual pursuits of a scientific institute are mysteriously remote from the lay intelligence. A society is not fashioned only by that which its citizens directly and immediately understand. If Rehovot, transforms the essential nature of Israel, then the source of this power is to be found in the history of ideas.

An idea does not have to find its mark in the minds of large numbers of people in order to create an incentive for progress and change. Ideas have a life of their own. They can be nourished and brought to life by a small number of sensitive, vital minds which somehow respond to the needs of a total organism. These minds sense both the need for change and the truth of ideas that define the nature of change. When ideas are articulated or standards fixed, the popular response is not merely the product of logic reaping its gains, but of a dormant awareness coming to life. The explosive effect of an idea, or the exemplary effect of its incisive or beautiful expression, cannot be measured by the limited numbers of those who grasp it in its first articulation. The delayed-action effect of truthful ideas or of high standards in their expression is proved by the history of science as well as of religion, literature and politics. A family of scientists bent on their tasks, assembled around the shrine of their nation's Founding Father, is a factor not merely of adornment but of transformation in Israel's society. Sooner or later, through the infinite processes whereby men within society influence each other, the whole texture of Israel's life, the level of its standards and the symmetry of its forms, will be affected by our nation's scientific workers — as much by what they are as by what they do.

BEYOND its role in exalting Israel's intellectual disciplines and aesthetic standards our Institute has certain roles to fulfill which belong to the special nature of the coming years.

It cannot be doubted that Israel's material and spiritual culture will be dominated in the future more than in the past by the needs of an industrial community. Israel's industry could theoretically fulfill its role in the domestic market by mere quantitative output allied to a protectionist policy, shielding it from the encroachment of foreign goods. But in the decisive export market our industry must stand on quality. The constant perfection of industrial products, especially in a world where publicity creates constant obsolescence, can only be achieved by a closer alliance between science and industry. In Israel this alliance is destined to be closer than it is. There has been no precipitate rush at Rehovot into the field of applied research. But the barriers between basic and applied science are easier to express semantically than in real life. And these barriers are falling. The essential character of our Institute as a centre of pure knowledge and basic research will not be modified. But within its existing frame of reference, under suitable or-

ganizational forms, the alliance with Israel's industrial revolution must be forged. In plastics, electronics, and plant genetics, the Weizmann Institute has already entered the fields of applied research. This domain will inevitably grow broader without impinging on the Institute's essential nature.

SCIENTIFIC research and application must rank high amongst the fields in which Israel cooperates with the nations of Asia and Africa. Our message to these peoples is that the scientific movement of our age is not the monopoly of established scientific centres in the West. Even nations which are hard-pressed in their resources and limited in their man-power can enter the mainstream of this movement. Before primary and secondary education have achieved a satisfactory level — even before literacy is widespread — a new African or Asian nation may establish an élite of scholars and scientists who can keep their country in contact with scientific thought and technological application. I have had occasion to discuss this theme with many statesmen and emissaries of Asian and African peoples who make the pilgrimage to Rehovot. We may well become the meeting place at which the contemporary scientific movement intersects with the national liberation movements of the neighbouring continents. The political and juridical inequalities which used to exist between nations of West and East are disappearing fast. But the differences in levels of knowledge and of technical and economic progress could create tensions, envies and rancours no less great. Israel is an instructive example of a pioneering community with a starting point of austerity and economic handicap, nevertheless achieving an honourable foothold in the world's scientific community.

The importance of this meeting between the scientific movement and the national liberation movement of our age is widely perceived. I have been happy in recent weeks to receive acceptances from some of the greatest scientists of our age to my invitation to attend the 1960 International Conference on the Role of Science in the Advancement of Developing States. Similarly, it is already certain that leading political and economic figures of Asian and African States will take part in this unique encounter.

OUR nation stands at a cross-road not only in geography but in the world of ideas. Access to modern science and technology and our devotion to political democracy mark us as a Western nation. But we are an African-Asian people in terms of our recent national freedom and our need to struggle hard against scarcities and handicaps. Perhaps no other nation is more strongly characterized by the greatest of all Israel's role in history is one of reconciliation — between religion and science; between the old inheritance and the new potentiality; between the contrasting possibilities of salvation and disaster embodied in the newly discovered sources of power; between the national freedom of Asia and Africa and the science and democracy of Europe and America.

Those of us who have pledged ourselves to the faithful custodianship of Weizmann's legacy are summoned first of all to an understanding of what the legacy is. It is not merely a cluster of buildings, laboratories and libraries. It is a total concept of the world and of Israel's place within it. It is an extension in the modern age of previous eras in which the Hebrew mind pursued its tenacious quest for beauty, truth, symmetry, harmony, and for an answer to the question of purpose in the life of nature and the journey of man. With all his victories, the modern scientist is aware of the length of the journey stretching before him. There is no mystery in nature the road to a mystery greater than itself. There comes a point when the scientist, examining the origin of natural forces, finds himself staring helplessly into the void. Man understands little of his own organic processes, least of all does he understand his most noble and mysterious faculty — the ability to stand outside himself and perceive himself in the act of perceiving. It is inconceivable that the exploration of man and nature should not include a purposeful investigator trust by the people to whom it was first said: "The watchman said: 'The morning cometh and also the night. If ye will enquire, enquire ye.'"

GERSHON AGRON: A LIFE OF SERVICE

GERSHON Agron (Agron-Gurion) was born in Mena, in the Russian province of Tchernigov, in December 1894. His parents were steeped in Jewish tradition. By the year 1905, when Czarist pogroms forced many Jews to flee to the Western world, young Gershon went to America, a child from the *heder*, and despite his life-long link with Labour Zionism he never gave up his regard for orthodox Jewry.

The Agrons family settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Gershon's Yiddish remained with him, his Hebrew continued to develop and he took hold of the English, later acquiring an almost uncanny talent for the right word in that language.

He began his newspaper career, however, in Yiddish, on the "Yiddische Welt." From editorials he graduated to editorials and comment on national affairs. At the same time he entered Temple University and began to make a name for himself as a speaker at Zionist political and fund-raising meetings. He went to New York to join the Jewish Correspondence Bureau, the forerunner of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency which is now called the Israel News Agency, soon became managing editor of "Dos Yiddische Volk," organ of the Zionist Organization of America.

By this time World War I had broken out in New York, toward the end of 1917 Gershon Agron met David Ben-Gurion and Isaac Ben-Zvi, came to find American support for the Yishuv. Agron enlisted in the Jewish Legion, and was soon to lead the "third bunch" to leave for the Palestine front. His army career fluctuated between private and sergeant, for he was constantly in trouble with Zionist problems, and writing for Zionist publications.

Return to Jerusalem
The war over, Agron remained in Palestine with the Zionist Commission's Press Bureau, and assisted I. L. Goldberg who started "Ha-Aretz" daily. He returned to Hebrew daily. He returned to the Weizmann-Einstein delegation going to the U.S.; Dr. Weizmann was to launch the Keren Hayesod, and Dr. Einstein to introduce the idea of a Hebrew University.

In the U.S. he married Ethel Lipschutz, of Philadelphia, to whom he had become engaged prior to his departure for Palestine. Their son, Daniel, was born during the three-year stay in New York. They also have two daughters, Judith, married to Dr. Harry Mendelsohn, of Cleveland, and Varda, wife of Aluf-Mishne Avraham Tamir. Agron served the New York City of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency from 1921 to 1924, he continued to miss Jerusalem. With borrowed money he moved his family to Jerusalem, where he established himself as a correspondent for the "Christian Science Monitor," the "Herald Papers" and the "New Palestine." Later the A.P., U.P., and

Reuters were to bid for his services.

In time he was to become a one-man syndicate with various newspaper connections which included the London "Times" and the "Manchester Guardian."

In 1927 he represented the World Zionist Organization as delegate to the Pacific Conference on Reclamation, convened by the U.S. Government in Honolulu. The Palestine Executive was the only non-government body invited to the Conference.

He founded the Foreign Press Association and the Jerusalem Journalists Association.

In 1929 he gave up his foreign correspondence work to head the J.T.A. in Palestine. Two years later he was made editor of the "Palestine Bulletin," which had been appearing since 1923, and conceived the idea of publishing an English-language newspaper for those whose opinions mattered, a paper that would speak for the efforts of those who were seeking to establish the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

It was not a simple problem, and the first issue of "The Palestine Post" appeared only in the early hours of December 1, 1932.

Overseas Missions
In his dual role as editor and political Zionist, Agron made many trips abroad over the past three decades. He always sent back vivid accounts to the newspaper. In 1939 he covered the Palestine Conference held by the British in London where an attempt was made at compromise on Arab-Jewish differences. He wrote reports from the North African desert campaign while travelling with the R.A.F. in 1941, on the Struma tragedy from Turkey in 1942, from Persia in 1943, and from war-ravaged London in 1944.

In 1945 he was a member



Gershon Agron and David Ben-Gurion looking at an album of photographs taken here 30 years ago.

of the Palestine delegation to the San Francisco conference where the United Nations Organization was established. In 1947 he attended the early debates on the Partition held at Lake Success. Agron had returned to Jerusalem in time for the beginning of open hostilities in the capital a few days after the Partition Resolution was passed, and he remained in Jerusalem during the ensuing war.

On February 1, 1948, when the offices of *The Palestine Post* were bombed, he was on his way back from another mission to London, and escaped the attack.

From 1948 to 1951 he took leave of *The Jerusalem Post* (the name was changed in 1950) to become Director of the Government Information Services in the Prime Minister's Office. On taking up the post he changed his family name to Agron. From 1951 he was a member of the Zionist General Council of the World Zionist Organization. In 1950 he appeared fourth on the Mapai list in the first municipal elections. The list was headed by Itzhak Ben-Zvi. He also ap-

Reader's Letter

SEPHARDI LEADER SAYS SUPPORT B.G.

Editor, *The Jerusalem Post*
Sir, — Israel's political parties are organized by Ashkenazi leaders and functionaries. With very rare exceptions the Ashkenazi leaders nominate their Sephardi and Oriental candidates without bothering about their status within the community they are supposed to represent or their position in the party concerned. This feudalistic practice exists thanks only to proportional representation, which vested interests want us to believe is the most democratic form of representation.

One of the roots of intercommunal strife, which culminated in the events of Wadi Salib, is, in my opinion, this arbitrary choosing by the Ashkenazim of Sephardi representatives.

To illustrate the absurdity of the present state of affairs, we now have the nomination by the General Zionists of Moshe Nissim to be the representative of the Iraqis and of all Sephardim who, like myself, stand for private initiative. I have nothing against young Nissim. But this insult to the one million Sephardim in Israel (as though the Iraqis and others have no better experienced and proven leaders) is a true picture of what today's election system permits.

No ideal election system exists. But the least detrimental, and the only one that may be able to solve the problem of the integration of the various communities, is the personal, territorial, majority system. It will not matter then who represents Wadi Salib in the Knesset — Sephardi or Ashkenazi, Right-

ist or Leftist, religious or atheist — since he will have to devote his energies to solve local problems. Otherwise he will not be re-elected. Had the Sephardim presented one united list instead of six, it would have been the duty of all Sephardim to support it, so long as proportional representation exists.

A protest vote for Ben-Harush against communal discrimination where it exists, and for communal integration is very tempting indeed. But it would not solve the grave communal problems.

Mr. Ben-Gurion and Mapai have solemnly undertaken that if they win a Knesset majority they will forthwith enact single constituency, majority elections, disband the Knesset and go to the elections under the new system. This declaration deserves full confidence and full support.

No other party wants any change, and they will continue as heretofore to decorate their lists with a sprinkling of ineffective Sephardim and Orientals.

I appeal to all who want to eliminate discrimination of any kind to vote for a change of the election system. This only Ben-Gurion can do. Without joining Mapai or accepting their programme let us vote *Aliyot* so that the Prime Minister may keep his promise. He fully deserves this short-term but very great credit and every well-wisher of Israel, particularly every Sephardi and Iraqi, should give him this chance.

Yours, etc.
B. ELIAHAB
Jerusalem, Oct. 29.

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4

DAYS UNTIL THE NEXT DRAW OF MIFAL HAPAYIS